

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**Antitrust Division****Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Low Cost, High Performance and Highly Reliable Polymer Electrolyte Membrane for Fuel Cell Applications**

Notice is hereby given that, on June 27, 2000, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), Plug Power Inc. has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing (1) the identities of the parties and (2) the nature and objectives of the venture. The notifications were filed for the purpose of invoking the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, the identities of the parties are Plug Power Inc., Latham, NY; General Electric Company, acting through GE Corporate R&D, Niskayuna, NY; and Albany International Research Company, Mansfield, MA. The nature and objectives of the venture are to conduct research on low cost, high performance and highly reliable polymer electrolyte membranes for fuel cell applications.

Constance K. Robinson,

Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**Antitrust Division****Notice Pursuant to the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993—Portland Cement Association ("PCA")**

Notice is hereby given that, on February 14, 2000, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperation Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.* ("the Act"), Portland Cement Association ("PCA") has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing changes in its membership status. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, Florida Rock Industries,

Inc., Jacksonville, FL; Continental Florida Materials, Inc., Fort Lauderdale, FL; Norval, Inc., Brooklyn, NY; and River Consulting, Inc., Columbus, OH have been added as parties to this venture. Also, Lone Star Northwest, Seattle, WA has changed its name to Glacier Northwest, Inc., Seattle, WA.

No other changes have been made in either the membership or planned activity of the group research project. Membership in this group research project remains open, and Portland Cement Association ("PCA") intends to file additional written notification disclosing all changes in membership.

On January 7, 1985, Portland Cement Association ("PCA") filed its original notification pursuant to Section 6(a) of the Act. The Department of Justice published a notice in the **Federal Register** pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act of February 5, 1985 (50 FR 67591).

The last notification was filed with the Department on October 25, 1999. A notice has not yet been published in the **Federal Register**.

Constance K. Robinson,

Director of Operations, Antitrust Division.

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OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET**Office of Federal Procurement Policy; Cost Accounting Standards Board; Comprehensive Review**

AGENCY: Cost Accounting Standards Board, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, OMB.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Cost Accounting Standards Board (CASB) hereby invites public comments on how the Board should proceed with its comprehensive review of the Cost Accounting Standards (CAS) and attendant requirements. The CASB's objective in issuing this Notice is to consider public comments in developing the Board's plan for performing a comprehensive review.

DATES: Comments must be submitted in writing, by letter, and must be received no later than September 25, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Rudolph J. Schuhbauer, Project Director, Cost Accounting Standards Board, Office of Federal Procurement Policy, 725 17th Street, NW, Room 9013, Washington, DC 20503. Attn: CASB Docket No. 00-02. The submission of public comments in written form, by letter, is requested.

Receipt of a readable data file via Internet E-mail cannot be assured. To facilitate the CASB's review of your submitted comments, please include with your written comments a three point five inch (3.5") computer diskette copy of your comments and denote the word processing format used.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Rudolph J. Schuhbauer, Project Director, Cost Accounting Standards Board (telephone 202-395-3254).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Established pursuant to section 5 of Public Law 100-679, the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act Amendments of 1988, 41 U.S.C. 422, as amended, the Cost Accounting Standards Board (CASB) has the exclusive authority to make, promulgate, amend, and rescind cost accounting standards and interpretations thereof designed to achieve uniformity and consistency in the cost accounting practices governing the measurement, assignment and allocation of costs to CAS-covered contracts and subcontracts. Under its statutory authority, the Board is also required to promulgate rules and regulations for the implementation of CAS. The referenced statutory provisions provide that such regulations shall require contractors and subcontractors to disclose their cost accounting practices, including the methods of distinguishing direct costs from indirect costs and the basis for allocating indirect costs; and to agree to a contract price adjustment, with interest, for any increased costs paid to such contractor or subcontractor due to a change in cost accounting practices or failure to comply with applicable CAS. Any contract price adjustment undertaken, on relevant contracts, shall be made so as to protect the Government from payment, in the aggregate, of increased costs (as defined by the Board).

The Board's rules and regulations are codified at 48 CFR Chapter 99.

The Board has placed on its agenda a comprehensive review of CAS and its attendant requirements. The Board is requesting the views of interested parties with respect to the particular CAS items they believe may require modification, issuance of an interpretation, or rescission. The Board requests that commenters prioritize the items recommended for review by the CASB.

Individuals and organizations desiring to submit specific items they believe should be included in the Board's comprehensive review are